



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

January 22, 2007

The Honorable Mike Johanns
Secretary of Agriculture
United States Department of Agriculture
14th Street & Independence, Southwest
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Mr. Secretary,

This is to request that you designate Imperial County in the State of California, a disaster area due to extreme low temperatures and freezing conditions that began January 13, 2007. Though additional time is needed to realize the full effect of the freezing temperatures, current estimates are reflecting more than an 80 percent loss in citrus crops.

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) requested that the county agricultural commissioner submit a *California County Agricultural Commissioner Disaster Report*, which is enclosed for your review. Preliminary damage/loss estimates exceed \$13 million. This damage will be devastating to affected producers, farm-related businesses and the general economy of the county. If you have any questions or need additional information, your staff may contact OES Director Henry Renteria at (916) 845-8510.

Thank you for your favorable and immediate consideration of this request on behalf of California's farmers and ranchers in dire need of USDA disaster assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arnold Schwarzenegger".

Arnold Schwarzenegger

Enclosure

Stephen L. Birdsall
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

Miguel A. Monroy
Assistant Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

150 South Ninth Street
El Centro, CA 92243-2850
(760) 482-4314
Fax: (760) 353-9420
Email: agcom@imperialcounty.net

January 18, 2007

Henry R. Renteria, Director
Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9047

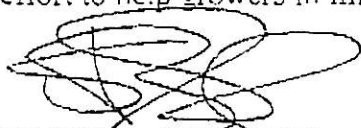
Dear Mr. Renteria:

Imperial County has experienced a major disaster to agriculture from extreme low temperatures beginning on the morning of Saturday, January 13, and continuing through Tuesday, January 16, 2007.

I am writing to seek your assistance to request a Federal Disaster Designation for Imperial County due to these extreme low temperatures that have caused widespread damage to citrus, leafy green vegetables, sweet corn, crucifers and other crops.

We are continuing to assess the damage our growers have experienced, but preliminary estimates indicate that 30 percent or more of these crops have been lost.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. If I can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me at 760-482-4314. I look forward to working with you and your staff in an effort to help growers in Imperial County.



STEPHEN L. BIRDSALL
Agricultural Commissioner

Cc: Karma Hackney, CDFA OES
Roberta Burns, Use & Environment Group, County of San Diego
Fred Nippins, Director OES, County Of San Diego
Victor Carrillo, Imperial County Board of Supervisor District I
Larry Grogan, Imperial County Board of Supervisor District II
Joe Maruca, Imperial County Board of Supervisor District III
Gary Wyatt, Imperial County Board of Supervisor District IV
Wally Leimgruber, Imperial County Board of Supervisor District V

[illegible]

13. Total Farms in County:

(Use most recent U.S. Farm Census number.)

Number

14. Farms with Production Losses of:

Number

100%

90 to 99%

80 to 89%

70 to 79%

60 to 69%

50 to 59%

40 to 49%

30 to 39%

20 to 29%

Less than 20%

15. Livestock and Poultry Losses of:

Number
Destroyed/Damaged3-Year Avg. Price
(From Annual Crop Report)

Dollar Loss

Cattle (Excluding milk cows)

Milk Cows

Milk Production

Sheep

Hogs

Poultry

Aquaculture

Apiary

Other

16. Farms with Physical Losses of:

Number

Major

Minor

17. Farm Facilities Damaged:

Number

Dollar Loss

Destroyed

Major

Minor

Dwellings & Service Buildings

Structures

Machinery & Equipment

Land Damages (Acres)

Other

Remarks: